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ONE HUNDRED NINTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

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April 7, 2005

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Dr. Charles Groat
Director
U.S. Geological Survey
Room 7A418, Mail Stop 119
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192

Re: Request for Documents

Dear Director Groat:

On Tuesday, April 5, 2005, you were invited to testify before the Subcommittee on Federal Workforce and Agency Organization for a hearing entitled "Yucca Mountain Project: Have Federal Employees Falsified Documents?"

During this hearing, I asked you if any of the employees included in the e-mails in question still worked on the Yucca Mountain project. Under oath, you stated that they did not. On Wednesday, April 6, 2005, Subcommittee staff was notified by the U.S.G.S. Congressional Affairs Office that three of at least ten employees in question had, in fact, been tasked to complete work for the Yucca Mountain project as recently as March 9, 2005.

Due to this development, in addition to the ongoing Subcommittee request sent to the Department of Interior on March 23, 2005, the Subcommittee hereby requests, pursuant to its authority under Rules X and XI of the House of Representatives, the following items in unredacted form:

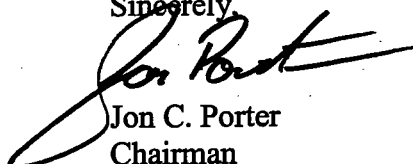
All documents and records, including correspondence and electronic communications, relating to the hiring, reassignment or transfer of the three aforementioned employees above or any other such employees to the Yucca Mountain project, as well all documents relating to the Agency's policy in dealing with employees alleged to have engaged in any kind of misconduct.

U.S.G.S. should also provide to the Subcommittee a detailed explanation identifying the individuals responsible for permitting, allowing, hiring, or requesting the three aforementioned employees or any other such employees to work on the Yucca Mountain project and the specific purposes for which these individuals were brought back to work on the project. Please also

explain why, as the Director of the U.S.G.S., you were unaware that said employees were working on the project when you testified at the April 5th Subcommittee hearing and why any official at U.S.G.S. chose to bring a certain employee back on the project *after* discovering [REDACTED] alleged misconduct. In addition, U.S.G.S. should provide the Subcommittee with a detailed organizational chart showing the management and employment structure from 1998-2000; the chart should be of sufficient detail to identify all employees involved in the correspondence relating to the falsification of documents pertaining to the Yucca Mountain project, their immediate supervisors, and all other superiors.

[REDACTED] If you have any questions about this matter, please have your staff contact the Subcommittee's Chief Counsel and Deputy Staff Director, Chad Bungard, at (202) 225-5147.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Porter", written over the typed name.

Jon C. Porter
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Danny Davis, Ranking Minority Member